

REMARKS

In the foregoing amendments, claim 1 was amended to correct a typographical error in line 20 thereof. Namely, the word "laver" was changed to -- layer --. In addition, claim 17 was amended by changing the dependency thereof from canceled claim 16 to independent claim 1. Claims 17-19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Official action noted that the dependency of claim 17 was incorrect, which dependency was corrected in the foregoing amendments. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that claims 17-19 and 21 particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

The foregoing amendments were made to clarify what was already implied in applicant's claims and to correct typographical and editorial errors. The foregoing amendments are not narrowing amendments and were not made for reasons substantially related to patentability presented. For these reasons, applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be entered under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b) for the purposes of placing the application in condition for allowance or for the purposes of appeal.

Claims 3, 5, 10, 12, 16, 20, 22 and 24-34 were previously canceled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 35 remain in the application for consideration by the examiner. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 35 are respectfully requested for the following reasons.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent publication No. 2003/0044639 of Fukuda *et al.* ("Fukuda") in view of U.S. patent No. 6,312,836 of Bulovic *et al.* ("Bulovic"). This rejection is set forth on pages 3-8 of the Official action. Claim 35 was rejected on the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukuda, Bulovic and U.S. patent No. 5,792,567 of Kido *et al.* ("Kido"). This rejection is set forth on pages 8-11 of the Official action. Applicant respectfully submits that the inventions defined in claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 35 are patently distinguishable from the teachings of Fukuda, Bulovic and/or Kido for at least the following reasons.

Claims 1 and 35 require, *inter alia*, that each of the first and second luminescent layers 51-53 includes a hole transporting material as a host material. Due to this arrangement of applicant's claims, each luminescent region of the first and second luminescent layers 51-53 becomes larger than the arrangements in the prior art. In addition, the electron transport layer 60 functions as a hole block layer. Accordingly, in the arrangements defined in claims 1 and 35, the luminous efficiency of each luminescent layer 51-53 is improved, and further, the mixture of color of light emitted from each luminescent layer 51-53 is prevented. This is discussed on page 56, lines 11-19, page 58, lines 6-7, and elsewhere in applicant's specification disclosure. The teachings of Fukuda, Bulovic and/or Kido do not disclose or suggest these basic arrangements of applicant's inventions as set forth in claims 1 and 35, nor the advantages achieved thereby. The teachings of Fukuda were discussed and distinguished from the presently claimed invention in the response filed on July 31, 2006, which remarks are incorporated herein by reference.

The outstanding Official action acknowledged that Fukuda does not disclose that each of the first and second luminescent layers includes a hole transporting material, as required in claims 1 and 35. The Official action stated that hole transporting materials were well known and widely used by those of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention as excellent host material for a luminescent layer in an organic electroluminescence display panel, as evidenced by the teachings of Bulovic at column 6, line 50-55, and hence would have been obvious to incorporate into the display panel of Fukuda in order to simplify manufacturer. Applicant respectfully submits that this position of obviousness is based on an improper interpretation of the teachings of Bulovic and understanding of the prior art, and therefore, should be reconsidered and withdrawn for at least the following reasons.

The teachings of Bulovic at column 6, lines 50-55, propose that the "overall" light emitting diode comprises the host material such as Alq_3 (i.e., electron transporting material) and α -NPD (i.e., hole transporting material), but not that the luminescent layer itself includes a hole transporting material as a host material, along the lines required in the present claims. Namely, Bulovic merely proposes that the EL display panel includes not only the electron transporting material but also the hole transporting material. See, for example, Fig. 1 and the accompanying disclosure at column 17, lines 35-39, of Bulovic which shows and describes a hole transporting layer 30 and a separate emissive layer 140. For these reasons, applicant respectfully submit that the teachings of Bulovic cannot disclose or suggest that the luminescent layer, itself, in the EL display panel includes the hole transporting material as a host material, along the lines required in the present claims. The teachings of Kido also do not disclose or suggest each of the first and second luminescent layers includes a hole transporting material, as required in claims 1 and 35.

Therefore, the teachings of Bulovic and Kido fail to cure or rectify the deficiencies in the teachings of Fukuda as discussed above.

At best, it may be conventional that the luminescent layer only includes the electron transporting material as a host material. However, conventionally the luminescent layer never contained the hole transporting material, because the hole transport layer was a separate layer including the hole transporting material. In present claims 1 and 35, the luminescent layer 51-53 includes not only the electron transporting material *but also the hole transporting material as a host material*. This specific structure improves the luminous efficiency of each luminescent layer 51-53, while preventing the mixture of color of light emitted from each luminescent layer 51-53, as discussed above. Since the teachings of neither Bulovic nor Kido disclose or suggest that each of the first and second luminescent layers includes a hole transporting material and the resulting advantages of this structure, which structure is also not suggested by the teachings of Fukuda, applicant respectfully submits that the inventions defined in claims 1 and 35 are patently distinguishable from the teachings of Fukuda, Bulovic and/or Kido.

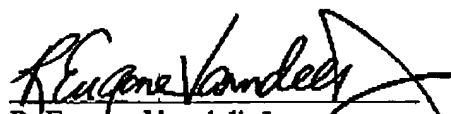
For at least the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 35 are patently distinguishable from the teachings of Fukuda, Bulovic and/or Kido within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §102 or 35 U.S.C. §103. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of these claims over these teachings.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13-15, 17-19, 21, 23 and 35 are respectfully requested. While it is believed that the present response places the application in condition for allowance, should the

examiner have any comments or questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned at the below-listed number to resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee therefor, as well as any other fees which become due, may be charged to our deposit account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,
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